

May 2002 Injury Prevention Newsletter

Alaska News & Resources

1. Food Safety Awareness
2. Safety Trivia Question
3. A New Idea for Summer Camp

National News & Resources

4. Lawn Mowers & Kids - An Unsafe Combination
5. Time to Pull Out the Camping Gear
6. A Car is Not a Playground

Miscellaneous

7. Websites for Injury Prevention Resources
8. Product Recalls and Safety Information

1. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has issued a notice to all Alaskans to be sure and wash all fresh fruits and vegetables with cool tap water immediately before eating. Scrub firm fruits and veggies, such as melons and cucumbers, with a clean brush (used only for washing food). Wash hands and food preparation surfaces often. The Alaska Food Safety website has other tips.

www.state.ak.us/dec/deh/sanitat/homesan.htm

[<http://www.state.ak.us/dec/deh/sanitat/homesan.htm>](http://www.state.ak.us/dec/deh/sanitat/homesan.htm).

2. Which of the following plants are poisonous: pansies, tulips, rhododendron, or dandelions? Answers can be found in the new "Plant Poisoning Prevention & Treatment - A Guide to Plants That Poison" brochure. Visit the Alaska Poison Control website at

www.chems.alaska.gov/ems_poison_control.htm

[<http://www.chems.alaska.gov/ems_poison_control.htm>](http://www.chems.alaska.gov/ems_poison_control.htm) to download a pdf version of the brochure (feel free to make copies for distribution).

3. There's a new summer camp in Michigan, but it's not like the summer camps you remember. This is Camp 9-1-1, designed to teach young people how to deal with emergency situations. The camp organizers, including the St. Joseph Police Dept., the Berrien County Sheriff's Dept., and local EMS providers, have three goals for the 2-day camp: the 5th graders will learn to prevent injuries, become effective bystanders at emergency scenes, and discover the different types of jobs available in public safety. Sgt. Rick Smiedendorf of the St. Joseph Police Dept. is the contact person: 269-983-2571, or you can contact Zoann Murphy at the State of Alaska Injury Prevention Office 907-465-1185 and she will fax you a copy of the article.

4. At www.aap.org/policy/st0010.html [<http://www.aap.org/policy/st0010.html>](http://www.aap.org/policy/st0010.html) you can find information on Lawn Mower-Related Injuries to Children from the American Academy of Pediatrics including recommendations for safe use and a parent safety sheet to download.

5. When you pull out the camping equipment for your summer trips, be sure to follow the Consumer Product Safety Commission's guidelines to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning from the use of portable camping heaters, lanterns, or stoves inside tents, campers, and other vehicles. www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/5008.html [<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/5008.html>](http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/5008.html)

6. A San Francisco-based organization Kids 'N Cars has documented at least 530 cases (1990-2001) of children dying because they were left unattended in or around vehicles. The group runs a public awareness campaign to alert parents not to leave children in cars - 'not even for a minute'. www.kidsncars.org <<http://www.kidsncars.org>>

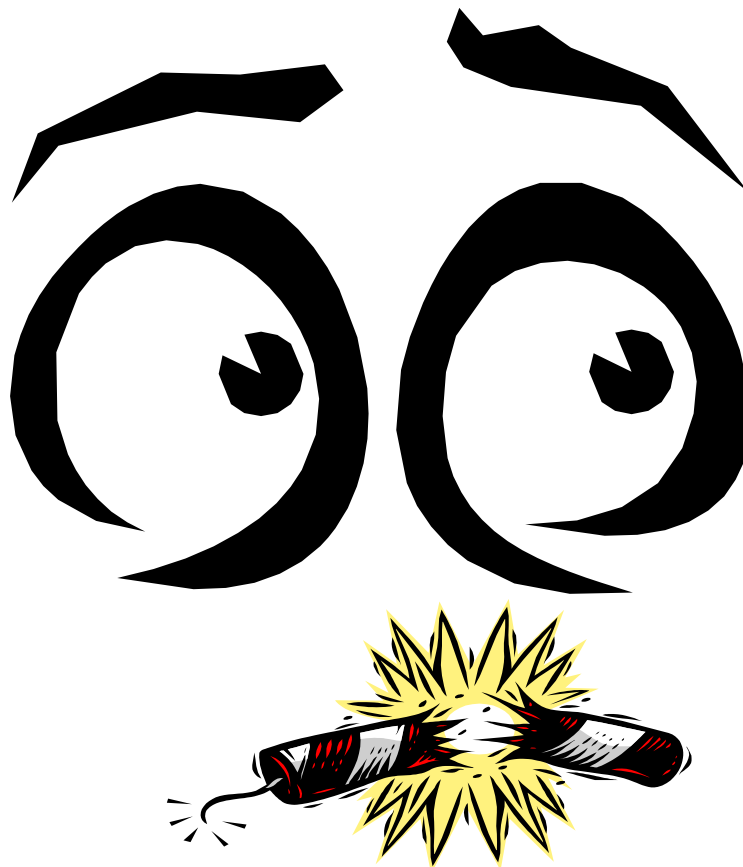
7. Websites for Injury Prevention Resources

Promote Healthy Swimming. www.cdc.gov/healthyswimming/
<<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyswimming/>>

National Safety Council. www.nsc.org <<http://www.nsc.org>> June is a busy month with the NSC: June 9-15 is Home & Community Safety & Health Week; June 16-22 is Preparedness Week; and June 23-29 is Workplace Safety Week.

8. Product Recalls and Safety Information

A Reminder about Gas Barbecue Recalls. The CPSC has issued a recall for Red Devil Gas Grills due to burn injuries suffered when the grills collapsed during use. These were sold through TV infomercials (Home Shopping Network & QVC) as well as through regular retail outlets. Complete details are at: www.cpsc.gov <<http://www.cpsc.gov>>



The 'Eyes' have it - this month (through July 4th) is Fireworks Safety Month, and the week of June 27 - July 5th is Eye Safety Awareness Week. More information about Fireworks Safety can be found at the Prevent Blindness America website: www.preventblindness.org <<http://www.preventblindness.org>>, and www.useironline.org

<http://www.useironline.org> is the information website for the United States Eye Injury Registry.

This newsletter has been compiled by the Section of Community Health & EMS (CHEMS), Alaska Division of Public Health and sent to subscribers of the AK-Prev and AHELP list-serves. It has also been sent as a 'bcc' to others in Alaska including Public Health Centers, SAFE KIDS coalitions, Native Health organizations, and regional EMS Councils and Coordinators who may be interested and active in injury prevention and health promotion. The purpose is to share resources, breaking news, training opportunities, product recalls, and opinions to help prevent injuries to Alaskans. Feedback and contributions are encouraged. Contributions can be directed to Mary Krom, (907) 269-3489, mary_krom@health.state.ak.us [<mailto:mary_krom@health.state.ak.us>](mailto:mary_krom@health.state.ak.us)

(Answer to trivia question: pansies, tulips, and rhododendron are all poisonous. However, even non-toxic plants such as dandelions can be a choking hazard for young children.)